

BAXTER SPRINGS NEWS

CHARLES L. SMITH, Editor and Proprietor.
BAXTER SPRINGS, - KANSAS.

CURRENT COMMENT.

AN Illinois farmer recently committed suicide from fear that he would be drafted into the army.

OFFICERS' wives at Washington have formed a society and meet once a week to see for the destitute families of the absent soldiers and sailors.

THE directory company places the present population of Kansas City (both sides of the K) at 230,282, which means a gain of 17,507 for the past year.

THE money value of the Spanish ships sent to the bottom by Admirals Dewey and Sampson has been figured out to have been in the neighborhood of \$30,000,000.

WILLIAM CARVER, aged 25 years, who had the distinction of being the smallest man in the world, died recently at Clayton, Ill. He was 28 inches high and used to travel in shows with his mother, who weighed 300 pounds.

MANY of those who went to Klondike in search of gold are coming home poorer, but wiser in experience, and the stories of the hardships they experienced have cooled the ardor of thousands who were preparing to leave remunerative employments to seek fortune in the bleak and inhospitable Arctic circle.

FATHER HAGGINS died a short time ago in Scranton, Pa., at the ripe old age of 117 years. His age was authenticated by records and certificates, which showed that he was born in Ireland on November 1, 1781. Both parents were also long lived, his father dying at the age of 111 years and his mother at 107.

NEARLY all of the railroads and railroad associations in the United States have decided that they will pay the war tax on bills of lading. This tax, which is one cent on each bill of lading, went into effect July 1. Any additional copy or copies of the original bill of lading must be stamped at the expense of the shipper.

In his annual report the state geologist of Indiana says that the residents of that state are drawing on their resources of natural gas with a lavish hand. They not only waste the gas in their furnaces, grates and stoves, but they allow 20,000,000 and more cubic feet to escape daily, because they are too indolent to cap the wells which have been bored for oil. He estimates that at the present rate of consumption the store of gas cannot last more than five years, while it would not be surprising if it failed in one year.

"REFRIGERATING ships," said a naval official the other day, "are among the most valuable additions to our modern navy. With the aid of these floating cold storage compartments ships the system of feeding a ship's company has been practically revolutionized. We are now able to keep the officers and men of Admiral Sampson's fleet supplied with fresh meats and vegetables and plenty of ice. When you keep Jack supplied with nutritious and palatable food you put down and put him in men and children against Spain away from any hope States."

ALL places. As the ship sank taken to surface the vortex of the American down everything on through a little bit of certain radius. As of the section ceased those still ribbon about 300 boats come out of Indiana with a rush, as if the sea. In the end the ship was observed the ship. But the struggle east could continue after the ship American. Hundreds still floated the carrying for rats, boats and also be so frantic endeavor to keep Indian island.

Santiago by the small boats of the communication come up and the But little at the which was a modified probably very measure that was taken by congress for the past ten years and which provided for voluntary and involuntary bankruptcy, while the senate or not-on bill provided for voluntary bankruptcy exclusively. Bankruptcy legislation has been sectional, the at and south, as the home of the so-called debtor class, favored the voluntary feature, while the east, as the region of the creditors, wanted involuntary bankruptcy.

THE annexation of the Ladrone islands in the Pacific by American troops was marked by a ludicrous incident. The United States warship Charleston entered the harbor of Guahan and fired several guns at the forts. The governor, thinking this was a salute, sent word that he regretted his inability to return it, as he was without powder. When informed that he was a prisoner of war he indignantly protested, saying that he had no idea that war had broken out between Spain and the United States. An American citizen residing in the town was appointed provisional governor.

WHAT undoubtedly is the finest hospital ship in the world is sent to Santiago de Cuba. She is the Relief, the pride of the war department. The Relief, Uncle Sam's other hospital ship, belongs to the navy department. The Relief is divided up into five large wards for the sick and wounded, into store rooms and mess rooms, operating rooms, and officers' quarters, and is fitted with every appliance known to modern medical and surgical science. Electrical power will run the lights and hundreds of fans scattered throughout the ship whose zephyrs will cool the wounded soldier.

THE Fourth of July in London was marked by demonstrations of patriotic fervor, unprecedented in any celebration of the day that has ever taken place outside of United States territory. The celebration in London was there such a profuse and wasteful display of American money. The news of the heavy losses of the Americans around Santiago caused a feeling of gloom, but the relief was given at the announcement of the destruction of Admiral Cervera's fleet by the American vessels under Admiral Sampson. All papers carried the news of the battle and the relief was given.

IT IS NO MORE.

Cervera's Fleet, the Pride of Spain, at the Bottom of the Sea.

Sampson's Warships Met It at the Entrance of Santiago Harbor and the Glorious Exploit at Manila Was Repeated—Cervera a Prisoner.

WASHINGTON, July 5.—The navy department received the following from Admiral Sampson:

To the Secretary of the Navy:
SIR: On July 3, the fleet under my command off the nation as a Fourth of July present the destruction of the whole of Cervera's fleet. Not one escaped. I attempted to escape at 9:30 a. m. (Sunday) to two p. m.

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gun that he could bring to bear. At the heels of the Colon, came the Vizcaya and Almirante Oquendo. Back of them were the dread destroyers.

Through a blaze of fire. Then suddenly the big battleships opened up and the rest of the Spanish fleet was literally hurled by a hurricane of shot and shells. But still the Colon kept on firing bravely, reeling under the terrific impact of the tons of metal that were poured upon her. When about ten miles westward of Morro castle, with his ship "trailing like a wounded duck," and battered with flame, Cervera turned the vessel toward the shore and made a last desperate effort to break her out of his enemy's hands. She was sinking and blazing in a score of places, but still her guns kept at work, and the white flag showed above her last of all. At first the fearful fire of the battleships had naturally been poured upon the flagship, but the others were not forgotten in the terrible din and uproar made by the heavy guns and continuous crash and rattle of the rapid batteries.

Smoke obscured the scene. The smoke wrapped the scene in obscurity, but from time to time, as the wind tore the smoke curtains aside, the spectators caught momentary glimpses of the swift tragedy. Close upon the heels of the Colon's destruction simultaneously, almost, came the doom of the Oquendo and Vizcaya. The Colon, the Vizcaya and Oquendo had to face the Iowa, Texas and Indiana. Under the fire of this ponderous trio the cruisers that had raised so many hopes and not a few fears went down to defeat with fearful swiftness. The flagship Colon fought her way ten miles up the coast before her nose turned seaward. The Vizcaya and Oquendo had not made half that distance under the terrible hammering of the hurricane battleships before their case was hopeless, and they, too, were turned seaward, and they had not been long before they were being hoisted by the enemy's hands. Their crews fought with desperate bravery, but courage was no match for courage plus gunnery.

Marksmanship the Story. It was the old story, Spanish ships that went down for the most part, while the Americans' gun fire was marked by merciless precision. When the battered Oquendo and Vizcaya faced the inevitable and swung around for the shore both were alike, the Vizcaya from forward to stern, the Oquendo from bow to stern, and they had not been long before they were being hoisted by the enemy's hands. Their crews fought with desperate bravery, but courage was no match for courage plus gunnery.

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FRIDAY'S TERRIFIC BATTLE.

American Troops Occupied El Caney and Aguadores, but Not Without Terrible Loss of Life.

PLAYA DEL ESTE, Cuba, July 1, via Mole, St. Nicolas, Hayti, July 2.—The first day's battle in front of Santiago has ended and the loss to the American side has been heavy, the report now being that there are at least 1,000 killed and wounded as the result of the gallant charge of the United States forces. With the sun scorching the vegetation and blistering the faces of the American soldiers, the attack was made, which has resulted in the capture and the occupation of every one of the outer defenses of the enemy. The thermometer registered 100 degrees when the fighting was at its height, and removed some racks, also that Gen. Franco had arrived at Palma and that the French consul with about 400 French citizens came into his line yesterday from Santiago. Have directed him to treat them with every courtesy possible. SHAFER, Major General Secretary of War, sent the following reply to Gen. Shafter:

To Gen. Shafter: The president directs me to say that you have the gratitude and thanks of the nation for the brilliant and effective work of your noble army on Friday, July 1. The steady valor and heroism of officers and men that the American people with pride the country mourns the brave men who fell in battle. They have added new names to our roll of heroes.

R. A. ALGER, Secretary of War.

SUNK TWO SPANISH BOATS.

Three Small American Vessels Have a Hot Engagement with Nine of the Enemy's Vessels at Manzanillo.

New York, July 5.—A dispatch from off Santiago, via Playa del Este, July 2, says: Three vessels of Admiral Sampson's fleet have just returned from an adventurous expedition to Manzanillo, during which they sunk two Spanish gunboats, one sloop and one pontoon, disabled a Spanish torpedo boat, considerably damaged several of the enemy's gunboats and compelled the command of a troopship to run her toward shore. One of Admiral Sampson's vessels, the Hiet, was struck 11 times and another, the Hornet, was disabled by a shell, which hit her main steam pipe. She was towed out of danger by the Wamuck. Admiral Sampson sent the Hiet, the Hornet and the Wamuck to Manzanillo to destroy four Spanish gunboats, which the admiral had been informed were lying in that harbor. Instead of finding only that array of fighting craft, the American vessels encountered, in crescent formation, nine vessels, including a torpedo boat and a cruiser. They also found themselves flanked by land batteries, while a heavy battery of field artillery was in position on the water front to aid in making warm the reception of Sampson's vessels. But for an accident to the Hornet the American vessels would not have withdrawn from the scene after fighting two hours. When the firing was hottest a shell went scurrying in the direction of the Hornet, striking the main steam pipe of that vessel, scattering over the deck and doing considerable damage. As soon as the Hiet and Wamuck discovered that the Hornet was disabled their captains decided that it would be useless to fight longer against such superior numbers. Accordingly the Wamuck hastened to the rescue of the Hornet, the Hiet meantime keeping up its fire.

AS MADRID HEARD IT.

Spanish Admit Heavy Loss in Battle of Santiago, but Distort Figures Regarding American Forces.

MADRID, July 5.—Private dispatches from Santiago give the following details: Gen. Shafter's army, composed of 17,000 infantry and 82 siege guns of various caliber, attacked the Spanish positions before Santiago, 6,000 rebels under Garcia assisting them. The Spaniards had only 2,000 men, partly volunteers. Our troops fought with heroic courage. The battle lasted three hours and the Spaniards were then compelled to abandon the trenches and to fall back on Santiago. The retreat was conducted in perfect order. Our losses were very heavy and the enemy's were enormous. The list of our wounded includes Gen. Linera, Col. Ordonez and Maj. Amador. Garcia, the latter being Gen. Linera's aide-de-camp. The American attack on El Caney was very severe. The position was defended by Gen. Verdadero with 500 men. The enemy was at first repulsed, but ultimately renewed the attack. A later dispatch says: The Americans fought eight against one. The Spaniards defended themselves heroically. Our wounded are numerous, including Gen. Verdadero and Maj. Dominguez. The struggle is becoming difficult, 2,000 Spanish having to meet 20,000 of the enemy.

A GLORIOUS FOURTH.

News from Sampson, Dewey and Shafter Made It the Greatest Day Since the Declaration of Independence.

WASHINGTON, July 5.—The complete annihilation of the Spanish squadron at Santiago and the capture of the Spanish Admiral, Cervera, with 1,620 prisoners; the demand by Gen. Shafter for the surrender of Santiago by noon to-day on pain of bombardment; word from Admiral Dewey that the Ladrone islands had been captured; that a Spanish gunboat had surrendered; that a hundred or more Spanish officers and men were taken, and that our first Philippine expedition had landed—this is, in part, the thrilling record of such a Fourth of July as has not been known since the bells of Independence hall rang out the tidings of American freedom. It was a day when one momentous event followed another in constant and rapid succession, each hour bringing forth some new feature, more startling than what had gone before. The climax came at one o'clock, when amid the wildest cheering, which fairly shook the great war state and navy building to its foundation, Admiral Sampson's dispatch announcing his glorious victory and the entire destruction of the Spanish fleet was given to the public.

The Fourth Expedition to Manila.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 5.—The indications are that the fourth expedition to the Philippines will be a large and striking one. An effort will be made to take the bulk of the troops now here. There has been no date approximated for the sailing of the fourth fleet. Everything still depends on the transports. When a sufficient number of these has been definitely decided upon, a date will probably be fixed. Maj. Gen. Otis and his staff will probably remain to the end.

Cooper the Two-Mile Champion.

PHILADELPHIA, July 5.—Tom Cooper, of Detroit, won the two-mile national championship race at the National circuit meet at Willow Grove. All the short-distance bicycle cracks were entered in the event. There were 27 entries in this event—Kiser, Stevens, Cooper, Eaton and Maj. Taylor riding in the final heat. The race was close throughout, Cooper beating Stevens less than a wheel's length. Time, 4:17-1/2.

Hurry in the Klondike.

SEATTLE, Wash., July 5.—The miners who arrived from the Klondike on the steamer New England report that scurry has marked hundreds of men in the Klondike for the winter.

Gen. Shafter said his lines were too thin to take Santiago by storm—Valor of Soldiers Praised.

WASHINGTON, July 5.—From the heat and carnage of the battlefield of Santiago, the American forces have pressed forward against an entrenched enemy. Gen. Shafter yesterday sent the following dispatch summarizing the situation:

To Secretary of War, Washington:

CAMP NEAR SANTIAGO, Cuba, July 5.—We have the town well invested in the north and east, but with a very thin line. Upon approaching it we find it of such a character and the defense so strong it will be impossible to carry it by storm with my present forces. Our losses up to date will aggregate 1,000, but I have not yet been made. But little sickness outside of exhaustion from intense heat and exertion of the battle of day before yesterday and the almost constant fire which is kept up on the trenches. We are not in such a hurry to take it as we were yesterday. We will be able to do so for the present. Gen. Wheeler is seriously ill, and will probably have to go to the rear. Gen. Yule is also very ill, confined to his bed. Gen. Hawkins slightly wounded in foot during the battle last night, which was handsomely repaid. The battery of the troops was excellent. Gen. Garcia reported he holds the railroad from Santiago to San Juan and has burned a bridge.

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CAMP NEAR SANTIAGO, Cuba, July 5.—We have the town well invested in the north and east, but with a very thin line. Upon approaching it we find it of such a character and the defense so strong it will be impossible to carry it by storm with my present forces. Our losses up to date will aggregate 1,000, but I have not yet been made. But little sickness outside of exhaustion from intense heat and exertion of the battle of day before yesterday and the almost constant fire which is kept up on the trenches. We are not in such a hurry to take it as we were yesterday. We will be able to do so for the present. Gen. Wheeler is seriously ill, and will probably have to go to the rear. Gen. Yule is also very ill, confined to his bed. Gen. Hawkins slightly wounded in foot during the battle last night, which was handsomely repaid. The battery of the troops was excellent. Gen. Garcia reported he holds the railroad from Santiago to San Juan and has burned a bridge.

Gen. Shafter said his lines were too thin to take Santiago by storm—Valor of Soldiers Praised.

WASHINGTON, July 5.—From the heat and carnage of the battlefield of Santiago, the American forces have pressed forward against an entrenched enemy. Gen. Shafter yesterday sent the following dispatch summarizing the situation:

To Secretary of War, Washington:

THE WAR SITUATION.

No Forward Movement in Absolutely Immediate Consideration.

Confidence Expressed That There Will Be No Friction Between Army and Navy Commanders—Watson's Squadron to be Rushed After Camara.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—By comparison with what has gone before, yesterday was very quiet at the war and navy departments. There were bulletins posted in the former department, but there were none of more recent date than Tuesday, and so far from indicating an impending battle, the general tendency of these bulletins was to show that no forward movement is in absolutely immediate contemplation.

Confidence is felt that there will be no friction between the army and navy commanders, and that the conference between them will result in an agreement upon a joint plan for the prosecution of the campaign. In the event that this belief should be not well founded, the president is prepared to act himself, by orders from first hand.

There is much of force in the naval argument that, if Admiral Sampson is obliged to enter Santiago harbor before the forts are captured, he will jeopardize the safety of the whole ironclad fleet under his command, since, by the sinking of one of these ships in the narrow channel through a Spanish mine or shell, the fleet would be left helpless and exposed to destruction under the guns of the forts, to which they could make no reply owing to the elevation of the latter.

On the other hand, the army officers seem to be justified in avoiding the tremendous sacrifice of life that would be involved in again trying our soldiers upon the Spanish defenses until they have been materially reinforced in numbers and strengthened by artillery.

Admiral Sampson did not report yesterday at the navy department, but a very agreeable message from Shafter announcing the readiness of the Spaniards to exchange Hobson and his men. It is believed that this was accomplished some time during the day, though notice of it has not been received.

The fact that several of the vessels selected for Watson's fleet were in the thick of the engagement of July 3 promises to delay somewhat the departure of the eastern squadron for the shores of Spain. The vessels have consumed a good deal of coal and doubtless have expended a large quantity of their highest grade of ammunition in the furious attack on the steel warships of the Spaniards. It will be necessary to replenish the stores before the long ocean voyage is begun. However, Secretary Long has given such orders for the preparation of this squadron, and it certainly will be off in the course of a few days.